

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, and 13-23 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 11, 13, 15, 21 and 23 are amended and claims 2, 7, 12 are canceled. No new matter is added. Support for the amended claims can be found, at least, in Figs. 3, 6 and 7, and paragraphs [0037]-[0040] of the specification.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiners Olaniran and Tran at the interview held December 12, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

I. Objections

The Office Action objects to claims 6, 7 and 8 for lack of antecedent basis of several claim terms. In accordance with the agreement reached during the December 12 interview, claim 6 has been amended to depend from claim 5, and thus now has antecedent basis for the term "the coordinate system." Likewise, claim 8 now has antecedent basis for the term "the parameters." Finally, claim 7 has been canceled. Thus, withdrawal of the objections to claims 6 and 8 is respectfully requested.

II. 35 U.S.C. §101 Rejection

Claims 1 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the subject matter of claims 2 and 7. Claims 2 and 7 recited statutory subject matter. As such, claim 1 now recites statutory subject matter. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, and claim 10 depending therefrom, is respectfully requested.

III. 35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

A. Rejection of Claim 1

Claims 1-7, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,556,687 to Manabe. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

During the December 12 interview, Applicant's representative argued that Manabe never disclosed a plurality of wavelets at a plurality of phases. The Examiners responded by asserting that claim 1 inadequately defined a reference point for defining the phase of the wavelets.

Claim 1, as amended, recites that the wavelets have a common frequency and amplitude. Claim 1 further recites that the wavelets originate at a common origin with reference to a first axis, and that the plurality of phases are generated using electronic delays. A focused hypersonic beam is then formed by the wavelets and transmits audio information to an object detected in a neighborhood.

By contrast, Manabe discloses a system with a plurality of transducers 41 that are attached to a supporting member 42, and mechanically aligned in order to create a focused beam. See Fig. 4 and col. 8 lines 36-49. Fig. 4 of Manabe shows that the transducers do not have a common location along an axis. Furthermore, Manabe discloses that in order to alter the focus point of the focused beam, the supporting member must be mechanically altered, see Fig. 7.

As such, Manabe does not disclose a plurality of wavelets having a plurality of phases and having a common origin. Furthermore, Manabe does not disclose that any phase alteration that may occur is the result of electronic delays. Therefore, Manabe does not disclose each and every element of claim 1 as amended.

B. Rejection of Claim 11

Claims 11-13, 15, 16 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,997,479 to Savord et al. ("Savord"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 11, as amended recites an output signal that has audio information. By contrast, Savord discloses an ultrasound machine, which uses ultrasonic pulses for imaging purposes, see Savord Abstract. Savord never discloses transmitting audio information. As such, Savord does not disclose each and every limitation of claim 11 as amended.

IV. 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 8, 14, and 17-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over various combinations of Savord and Manabe. However, claims 8, 14 and 17-22 all depend from independent claims 1 and 11. As discussed above, neither Savord nor Manabe disclose the subject matter of claims 1 and 11 as amended. Thus, the rejections of claims 8, 14 and 17-22 are not separately addressed.

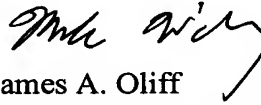
V. Conclusion

For at least the above reasons Manabe and Savord cannot reasonably be considered to disclose each and every feature of independent claims 1 and 11. Furthermore, claims 3-6, 8-10, and 13-23 are allowable for at least their dependence on their allowable base claims, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each one recites. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 3-6, 8-11 and 13-23 are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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